

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (currently amended): An image processing apparatus comprising:

read means for reading an image on a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

authentication means for authenticating whether a user can utilize an original image of the document;

search means for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document, on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated by said authentication means;

setting means for automatically setting, in accordance with an authentication by said authentication means, a destination for the original image of the document to an address of the user authenticated by said authentication means; and

output means for outputting the original image of the document searched by said search means to the destination set by said setting means.

2. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storage information includes information represented by a barcode.

3. (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image storage device includes a server device connected via a network.

4. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output means attaches the original image to E-mail, and outputs the E-mail with the original image to the destination set by said setting means.

5. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising means for causing a printing device to print the image storage information, and causing the image storage device to store the original image of the document.

6. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output means outputs the original image without the image storage information.

7. (currently amended): A processing method for an image processing apparatus which reads a document and outputs the document to a printing device or external device, comprising:

a read step for reading an image on a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

an authentication step for authenticating whether a user can utilize an original image of the document;

a search step for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated in the authentication step;

a setting step for automatically setting, in accordance with an authentication in said authentication step, a destination for the original image of the document to an address of the user authenticated in said authentication step; and; and

an output step for outputting the original image of the document searched in the search step to the destination set in said setting step.

8. (canceled).

9. (currently amended): A computer-readable recording medium which records a program which causes a computer to function as each means of an image processing apparatus comprising:

read means for reading an image on a document that contains image storage information representing a location where an original image of the document is stored;

authentication means for authenticating whether a user can utilize an original image of the document;

search means for searching the original image of the document from an image storage device which stores the original image of the document, on the basis of the image storage information when the user is authenticated by said authentication means;

setting means for automatically setting, in accordance with an authentication by said authentication means, a destination for the original image of the document to an address of the user authenticated by said authentication means; and

output means for outputting the original image of the document searched by said search means to the destination set by said setting means.